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In re Application of:

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: Group Art Unit:

: Examiner:

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby transmit copies of the documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 which may be deemed material to the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of a British Search Report citing these documents is also being transmitted for the Examiner's information.

Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b) is required.

The Examiner is requested to consider the attached documents in connection with the above-identified application and to return a copy of Form PTO-1449 to the Applicants with the Examiner's initials in the spaces provided.

Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission by the Applicants as to the materiality of the attached documents to the application, nor do the Applicants waive any right to challenge the validity of the documents as prior art should such action be deemed appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 46,246

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Dated: June 29, 2004

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw Line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.